



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **CELEBRATE PASSAGE OF AB 658, LEGISLATION TO FUND LOCAL PALs**

Please join Assemblymember Mary Hayashi, local peace officers and youth of the California Police Activities Leagues at 4 p.m. Monday, October 11, 2010 as we celebrate the passage of Assembly Bill 658. This legislation creates much-needed steady funding for local police and sheriff's activities leagues. The celebration will be held at Cal PAL headquarters, 2000 East 14<sup>th</sup> Street in San Leandro.

AB 658 will allow individuals to designate charitable contributions directly to California Police Activities Leagues (Cal PAL) chapters by checking off a box on their personal state income tax returns. Contributions made by a taxpayer will be distributed to the Police or Sheriff's Activities League chapter within the taxpayer's zip code.

"AB 658 gives the public the opportunity to learn more about and provide greater support for Cal PAL's important youth programs," stated Assemblymember Hayashi. "Cal PAL is making a huge difference in the lives of at-risk children, and is helping to build stronger community bonds between law enforcement officers and the families they serve."

Cal PAL is a non-profit organization founded over 35 years ago by police officers to provide educational and recreational programs for youth ages 8-18. Over 300,000 youth participate annually in Cal PAL's 122 local chapters and benefit from this "Cops & Kids" program that connects local law enforcement officers, paid staff, and volunteers with youth. Personnel and volunteers of local Cal PAL chapters serve as role models, coaches, tutors, mentors, chaperones and program managers. The goal of Cal PAL chapters is to help underserved youth succeed through development programs which are designed to effectively connect local law enforcement officers with the communities they serve.

Local Cal PAL chapters are community-based organizations started and operated through the voluntary efforts of concerned law enforcement officers. Cal PAL chapters receive no state funding and rely exclusively on donors for financial sustainability.

"I am extremely proud of our own Alameda County Deputy Sheriffs' Activities League, which this year will provide free after-school and summer activities for more than 3,000 at-risk children in the unincorporated areas of our county," Alameda County Undersheriff Rich Lucia said. "But it is a constant struggle to find the funds necessary to keep our program moving forward. The funding we anticipate as a result of Assemblymember Hayashi's legislation will be a great asset."

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*The Bond Between Cops and Kids*